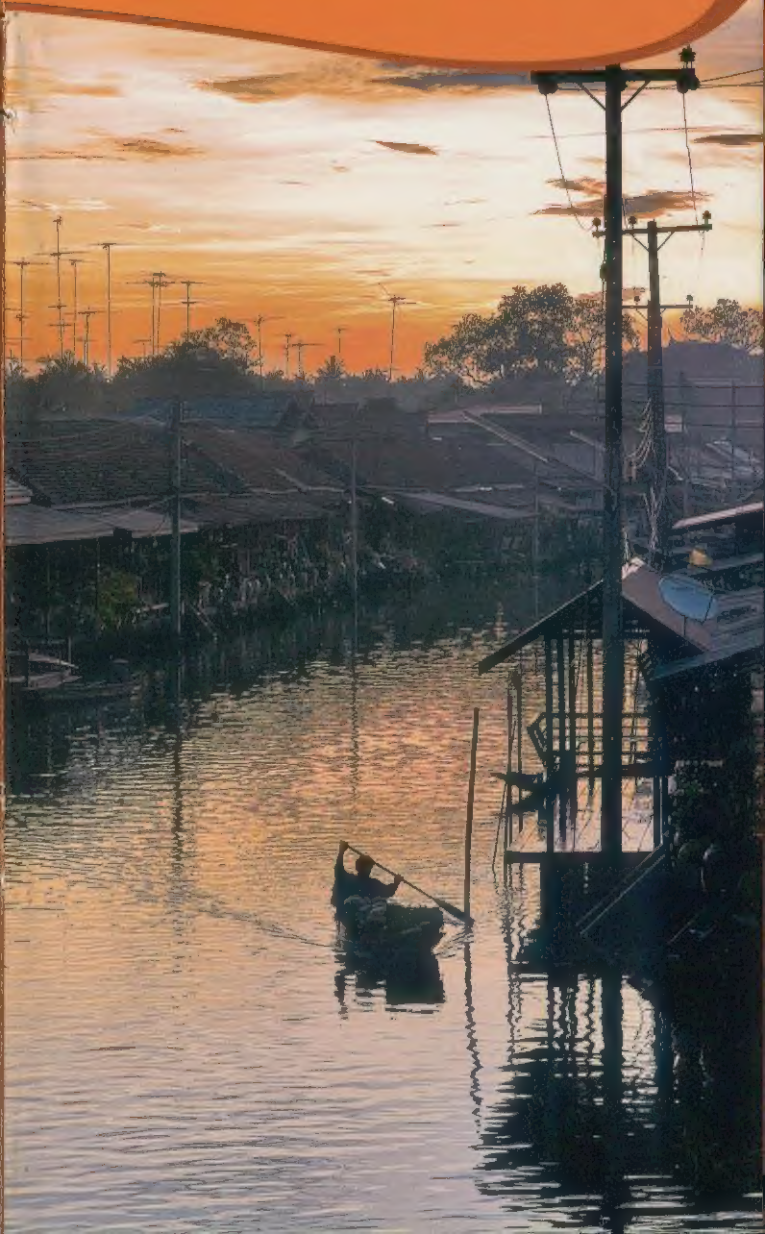


amazing
THAILAND

Samut Songkhram





Khlong Amphawa

<i>Transportation</i>	5
<i>Attractions</i>	6
<i>Amphoe Mueang Samut Songkhram</i>	6
<i>Amphoe Amphawa</i>	13
<i>Amphoe Bang Khonthi</i>	23
<i>Interesting Activities</i>	25
<i>Ecotourism</i>	26
<i>Agro-tourism</i>	26
<i>Homestay</i>	27
<i>Tour</i>	29



Contents

<i>Events and Festivals</i>	31
<i>Facilities in Samut Songkhram</i>	32
<i>Accommodation</i>	32
<i>Restaurants</i>	43
<i>Local Products and Souvenirs</i>	46
<i>Useful Calls</i>	49



Tha Kha Floating Market

Samut Songkhram

Samut Songkhram is a small province not far from Bangkok. It takes a little more than one hour to the province. For those who enjoy cultural tourism and traditional ways of life, this province has much to offer. For example, the people here earn a living from vegetable and fruit farming, and coconut palm sugar simmering. Furthermore, the floating market at Tha Kha still maintains the traditional way of life of a community by a canal.

There is no evidence to indicate the establishment of the city of Samut Songkhram. It is presumed to have been a former district of Ratchaburi called "Suan Nok" (outside garden). Then, during the transition from the Ayutthaya to the Thon Buri periods, it was separated from Ratchaburi and named "Mueang Mae Klong." Samut Songkhram was historically important during the establishment of Thon Buri as the kingdom's capital by King Taksin the Great. When the Burmese led an army to Tambon Bang Kung, the king gathered the people to build a fort and prevent the city from the Burmese troops. This was an important act against the Burmese invaders at that time.

Samut Songkhram is 72 km from Bangkok, covering an area of 416 sq km. The province is divided into three districts: Amphoe Mueang, Amphoe Amphawa, and Amphoe Bang Khonthi.

Boundary

North	borders Ratchaburi.
South	borders Phetchaburi and the Gulf of Thailand.
West	borders Phetchaburi and Ratchaburi.
East	borders Samut Sakhon.

Transportation

By car : Take Highway 35 (Thon Buri - Pak Tho or Rama II Road), past the Na Kluea - Maha Chai Intersection. At around Km 63, take the elevated way into the town of Samut Songkhram.

By bus : The Transport Company Limited offers a daily bus service between Bangkok and Samut Songkhram, leaving the Southern Bus Terminal on Borommaratchachonnani Road from 5.40 a.m. - 9.00 p.m. For an air-conditioned bus (Damnoen Tour), call Tel. 0 2894 6355, or visit www.transport.co.th.

By train : From the Wongwian Yai Railway Station, there is a daily train from Wongwian Yai to Maha Chai. Take a boat from the Maha Chai Pier to the Tha Chalom Pier and get on a train from the Ban Laem Railway Station to the town of Samut Songkhram. Or take a bus from the Maha Chai Railway Station straight to the town. For a train schedule, contact the Wongwian Yai Railway Station, Tel. 0 2465 2017, 0 2890 6260, or visit www.railway.co.th.

Distances from Amphoe Mueang to Other Districts

Amphoe Amphawa	6 kilometres
Amphoe Bang Khonthi	12 kilometres

Attractions

Amphoe Mueang Samut Songkhram

Don Hoi Lot (ดอนหอยหลอด) This famous tourist attraction of Samut Songkhram is a bar on the mouth of the Mae Klong River. It was formed by the sedimentation of sandy soil called by villagers here as "Sai Khi Pet." The bar of 3 km. wide and 5 km. long covers two zones: Don Nok is on the mouth of Ao Mae Klong, accessible by boat; and Don Nai is located on the beach of the Chuchi village in Tambon Bang Chakreng and on the beach of the Bang Bo village in Tambon Bang Kaeo, accessible by car. In the area of the bar, there are many shellfish, such as Hoi Lot (razor clam), Hoi Lai (undulated surf clam), Hoi Puk (Ridged Venus clam), Hoi Pak Pet (tongue shell), Hoi Khraeng (cockle), etc. Hoi Lot is mostly found here and it has become a landmark of this place.



Don Hoi Lot

Hoi Lot is a species of bivalve mollusks, having muddy white meat in a straw-shaped shell and living in mud. Hoi Lot will be caught during low tide. A small stick previously dipped in lime will be put in a hole where the shellfish live. Because of the lime, they will be stimulated to appear and are caught easily. The lime should not be directly spread on the bar since it will kill all other shellfish in the area. The best time for a visit is around March - May because the low tide will last longer and the bar will emerge to be seen. Tourists can hire a boat from the Aphon Pavilion (near the Krommaluang Chumphonkhet-udomsak Shrine) to visit Don Hoi Lot. The charter boat fee is 120 Baht (not over 6 persons), or 20 Baht per person. To visit the bay mouth, it costs 300 Baht per boat (30 minutes). To admire the beauty of the mangrove forest, it is 500 Baht per boat (not over 6 persons 1 hour). For more details on the times of the high and low tides, contact the Bang Chakraeng Sub-district Administration Organization at Tel. 0 3472 3749, 0 3471 3964.

Here, there is a Krommaluang Chumphonkhet-udomsak Shrine, and traditional Thai music is performed

on weekend in March and April on its front lawn during 3.00 - 5.00 p.m.

Furthermore, many restaurants and souvenir shops here offer fresh and dried seafood, Hoi Lot, fish sauce, shrimp paste of Khlong Khon, coconut sugar, palm sap, etc.

To get there

By car :

1. To the Bang Bo village in Tambon Bang Kaeo, take the Thon Buri - Pak Tho Road (Rama II Road), and before Km 62, follow the direction sign on the left to Don Hoi Lot for around 7 km.

2. To the Chuchi village in Tambon Bang Chakreng, take the Thon Buri - Pak Tho Road (Rama II Road), and at the foot of the Phra Phutthaloetla Naphalai Bridge or around Km 64, follow the direction sign to Don Hoi Lot for around 5 km.

By bus : A bus service is available all day from the market in Amphoe Mueang Samut Songkhram to Don Hoi Lot in Chuchi village.

By boat : A boat service of various sizes is available from the pier on the Mae Klong River to Don Nok. For a group of 60-200 people, contact Khun Phonthip Saengwanit at the Sun Huat Heng Sawmill in advance at Tel. 0 3470 1144-5, 0 3470 1258, 08 1378 5858; Fax: 0 3470 1240 (Food can be ordered to serve on the boat.), or contact the ferry ticket booth at the pier by the Mae Klong River.

Wat Satthatham or Wat Mon (วัดศรัทธาธรรมหรือวัดมอน) is located at Mu 5, Tambon Bang Chakreng. Take the Thon Buri - Pak Tho Road (Rama II Road). At around Km 64, follow the route to Don Hoi Lot for around 1 km. This temple is on the right before Don Hoi Lot. A landmark is the Ubosot (ordination hall) built by Phrakhru Samutwisutthiwong (former abbot) in 1992. The ordination hall is made of golden teak with mother-of-pearl-inlaid walls both inside and outside. The designs

are exquisite, depicting the Lord Buddha's history and Ramayana episodes. Housed inside the ordination hall are Buddha images: Luangpho Ban Laem, Luangpu Thuat Yiap Nam Thale Chuet, and Luangpho Phuttha Sothon, which are worshipped by the people of Samut Songkhram and nearby provinces. On the temple grounds, Kalamae-Raman or coconut toffee is sold by the Raman Phatthana Group of Housewives. It is a famous dessert of the temple for its sticky, sweet and creamy taste. The sweet is uniquely wrapped in Kap Mak (leaf sheath of a betel nut tree). Visitors can also see Kalamae making in a giant wok at the temple. For more information, call Tel. 0 3471 1305.

Wat Khao Yi San (วัดเขายี่สาร) is located in Ban Khao Yi San, Tambon Khao Yi San. Presumably, this ancient temple was built in the late Ayutthaya period. Here, there are many interesting spots. The Wihan on the hilltop is a boat-shaped hall where the four Buddha's footprints are enshrined. The Mondop (square building) and wood-carved door panels from the late Ayutthaya period are fine craftsmanship of the master art. The renovated Ubosot possesses the art of stucco by craftsmen from Mueang Phet or Phetchaburi. Inside, there are original paintings, and figures from the Chinese chronicles seen on the window panels. The Phra Non Cave has a reclining Buddha image with nine toes. At the lower part lies the sacred shrine of Luangpho Pu Si Racha which is respected by the villagers. A fair to pay homage to the revered image is held in the first lunar month of every year.

Ban Khao Yi San Museum (พิพิธภัณฑ์บ้านเขายี่สาร) is situated on the temple grounds, using Sala Kan Parian (preaching hall) as its building. It was established in 1996 with full cooperation from the villagers of the Yi San Community who have been aware of their local history. Yi San is an ancient community of the same age as the Ayutthaya Kingdom, with people living in it continuously. The museum presents the stories of the community which are important and worth a study. On the ground floor,

there are displays of folk wisdom, life and culture, tools for making herbal medicine, and household utensils. Other local tools and utensils are exhibited on the upper floor. The museum is open only on Saturday and Sunday from 9.00 a.m. - 3.00 p.m., except for Buddhist holy days during Buddhist Lent. Contact should be made at least one week in advance for admission on Monday to Friday. For the reservation of a whole day visit, lunch will be provided. Admission fee is 30 Baht. For a group visit of not more than 20 persons, the admission is 200 Baht with a guide provided. For more information, contact 08 9696 7556 at Tel. 0 2888 5711, 08 1859 3195; the Khao Yi San Sub-district Administration Organization at Tel. 0 3476 3108 Fax: 0 3476 3109.

To get there : Take Rama II Road. At Km 72, see the PTT petrol station on the left. Turn left to follow the direction sign to Wat Khao Yi San for around 7 km.

Wat Ban Laem or Wat Phet Samut Worawihan (วัดบ้านแหลม หรือ วัดเพชรสมุทรวรวิหาร) is located in town on Phet Samut Road. This is an important temple of the province. Initially, it was called Wat Si Champa. According to the Chronicles of the royal records, the Burmese led an army to attack the city of Phetchaburi in 1764. At that time, a Thai army from the capital came in time to help protect the city. Villagers of Ban Laem in Phetchaburi fled from the Burmese to resettle in Tambon Mae Klong to the north of Wat Si Champa, and called their village "Ban Laem," the same name as their former village in Phetchaburi. Later, the villagers helped restore the temple and renamed it "Wat Ban Laem."

Most of the villagers of Ban Laem are fishermen. Once they went fishing in Ao Mae Klong and found two Buddha images in their trawl net. One was a seated image and the other was a standing figure. The seated image was brought to Wat Khao Takhrao in Amphoe Ban Laem, Phetchaburi, while the other was enshrined here in Wat Ban Laem and commonly called "Luangpho Ban Laem."



The standing Buddha image holding an alms bowl is around 167 cm high. (The original alms bowl was lost in the sea. Somdet Chaofa Krom Phraya Phanuphantwongworadet offered a new one of blue glass instead.) Because of its sacredness, the image has gained respect from the villagers. Wat Ban Laem was developed to be a large temple since faithful people continued to make merit and pay homage to the image. Later, it was promoted as a royal temple of the third class and given a new name as "Wat Phet Samut Worawihan." Inside the temple compound, there is a Sangha museum with displays of Buddha images, amulets of different periods, ancient artefacts, blue-and-white porcelain, and a pulpit of the Ayutthaya period. Admission is allowed only through contact in advance to the abbot.

Chang-Eng Siamese Twins Memorial and Boat Museum (อนุสรณ์สถานแฝดสยามอิน-จันและพิพิธภัณฑ์เรือ) are located in Tambon Lat Yai on Ekkachai Road, around 4 km. from City Hall. The statues were built in memory of Chang-Eng, the Siamese twins who made Thailand famous around the world. They stand in the middle of a broad ground decorated with trees and flowering plants. There is a large pond in the foreground. Furthermore, the biography of Chang-Eng, the Siamese twins, is on display in a hall. Chang-Eng, the Siamese twins were born on 11 May 1811, in Samut Songkhram. During 1828-1829, Captain Coffin and Hunter came to Mae Klong to conduct trade and they encountered the Siamese twins. They were allowed to take the Siam twins back with them to America and the United Kingdom for shows in public places where the life stories of Chang-Eng who were joined to each other at the chest were repeated again and again. Both of them lived a normal life to the age of 63. The name of "Siamese twins" made Thailand famous worldwide.

In addition, the hall has an area for a "Boat Museum." Here, there is a variety of local boats collected for a study on the "Mae Klong villagers" way of life. The museum is

open daily from 8.00 a.m. - 4.00 p.m., and on Saturday and Sunday from 8.00 - 12.00 a.m. Admission fee is 15 Baht. For more information, call Tel. 0 3471 1333.

Amphoe Amphawa

This district has an important record in Thai history during the late Ayutthaya to the early Rattanakosin periods. Initially, it was a small community called "Khwaeng Bang Chang" which flourished in agriculture and trade. According to evidence, in the reign of King Prasat Thong, Khwaeng Bang Chang had a marketplace called "Talat Bang Chang". The market mistress "Noi," held a title of Thao Kaeophaluck and she was in a wealthy family of Bang Chang which later became a royal lineage of "Na Bang Chang."

In 1760, King Ekkathat of Ayutthaya appointed Nai Thongduang (King Rama I) as Luang Yokkrabat to rule Ratchaburi, the fourth level city of Ayutthaya. Luang Yokkrabat later married Khun Nak, a daughter of the wealthy family in Bang Chang, and moved to live behind Wat Chulamani. When his house was burnt by a fire, he resettled behind Wat Amphawan Chetiyaram. In 1767 when the Ayutthaya Kingdom was destroyed by the Burmese, Luang Yokkrabat decided to evacuate his family into the deep forest. During the time, Than Kaeo (Somdet Krommaphra Si Sudarak), an elder sister of Luang Yokkrabat, gave birth to a daughter named "Bunrot" who later became Somdet Phra Si Suriyenthramat Borommarachini, the queen of King Rama II.

During the Thon Buri period, Phraya Wachira-prakan gathered enough forces to successfully dispel the Burmese out of the kingdom, and established himself as Phrachao Taksin (King Taksin). Luang Yokkrabat moved his family back to town and then his wife, Khun Nak, gave birth to the fourth son named "Chim" (King Rama II). Luang Yokkrabat returned to work with King Taksin the Great and was given the title of Phra

Ratchawarin Chao Krom Phra Tamruat Nok Khwa. He was later promoted as Somdet Chao Phraya Maha Kasatsuck and was crowned as King Rama I, the founder of the Royal House of Chakri and the Rattanakosin Kingdom. His wife, Khun Nak, was appointed as queen named Somdet Phra Ammarinthramat and her mother, Khun San, was given the title of Somdet Phra Rupsirisophak Mahanakhari.

Since Queen Ammarinthramat was a native of Bang Chang, she had immediate relatives who did farming there. As the queen was a member of the royal lineage of Bang Chang, they, therefore, became members of the royal lineage by their relation to the queen. The queen usually went to visit them. Until the reign of King Rama IV, the district of Bang Chang had been referred to as "Suan Nok" (outside garden) while "Suan Nai" (inside garden) was the royal palace in Bangkok. Hence, Amphoe Amphawa has had a place in Thai history for a long time.

Tha Kha Floating Market (ตลาดน้ำท่าคา) is located in Tambon Tha Kha. This floating market still remains the villagers' way of life in nature. The villagers here do farming and grow various plants. They usually paddle a boat to bring their produce to sell to each other. The vegetables and fruits from their orchards include chili, shallot, garlic, coconut sugar, guava, coconut, rose apple, pomelo, etc. The market is held every five days on the second, seventh, and twelfth days of the waning or waxing moon in the lunar month from around 8.00 - 11.00 a.m. A boat service is also available for visitors to paddle around the village and fruit orchards. For more information, contact the Tha Kha Sub-district Administration Organization at Tel. 0 3476 6208 or Uncle Charun at Tel. 0 3476 6123.

To get there: Take Highway 325 (Samut Songkhram - Bang Phae). At Km 32 (after a junction to Wat Ko Kaeo), turn right for another 5 km. Alternatively, take a bus from the market in town in front of the TMB Bank.

The Tha kha - Wat Thep Prasit bus is available from 7.00 a.m. - 6.00 p.m. and leaves every 20 minutes.

Wat Chula Mani (วัดจุฬามณี) is located on Highway 325 (Samut Songkhram - Bang Phae) between Km. 34-35 in Tambon Bang Chang. This ancient temple sits on the bank where the Amphawa Canal connects with the Phi Lok Canal. The temple was built in the Ayutthaya period during the late reign of King Prasatthong. It was presumed that Thao Kaeophaluek (Noi), Mistress of the Bang Chang Market and a forebear of the royal lineage of Bang Chang, built the temple. The back of the temple was initially the residence of Khun Nak (Queen Ammarinthramat of King Rama I) and Khun Bunrot (Queen Si Suriyenthramat of King Rama II).

Wat Bang Kaphom (วัดบางกะพ้อม) is located between Km. 37-38 on Highway 325 (Samut Songkhram - Bang Phae). This ancient temple was built in the late Ayutthaya period. The old Wihan (image hall) is very interesting. On the upper part of the walls, there are unusual mural paintings in the form of stucco reliefs depicting the Lord Buddha's history. On the lower part of the walls, there are niches with Buddha images inside. In the centre of the hall, a large replica of four superimposing Buddha's footprints in different sizes is enshrined. It was presumed that the footprints were built in the Thon Buri period. Initially, they were covered by silver sheets which were later stolen during a war. The footprint at the deepest level which is made from mother-of-pearl-inlaid wood still retains its beautiful design. On the temple grounds, a small coffee shop offers traditional tasty tea and coffee.

Amphawa Floating Market (ตลาดน้ำอัมพวา) is an afternoon floating market by the canal near Wat Amphawan Chetiyaram (parking area is available). On Friday, Saturday and Sunday, during 12.00 a.m. - 8.00 p.m., the Amphawa Canal is occupied by vendors who pack their boats with food and drinks, such as fried



Amphawa Floating Market

sea mussel, noodles, coffee, O-liang (iced black coffee), sweets, etc. There are also things for sale on wheelbarrows on the bank. Visitors can enjoy a cosy atmosphere and music broadcast by the community members, explore the market, have food, and hire a boat to see fireflies at night.

To get there

By car : Take Highway 35 (Thon Buri - Pak Tho) to Km. 63. Drive through the town of Samut Songkhram to take Highway 325 (Samut Songkhram - Bang Phae). At Km. 36-37, take a left turn toward the King Rama II Memorial Park. The Market is near the King Rama II Memorial Park.

By bus : Take the Bangkok - Ratchaburi - Damnoen Saduak bus to get off at Amphawa Market.

Wat Amphawan Chetiayaram (วัดอัมพวันเจติยาราม) is next to the King Rama II Memorial Park. It is a temple associated with the royal lineage of Bang Chang. Presumably, it was built during the reign of King Rama I. The back of this temple was once a residence of Luang Yokkrabat (King Rama I) and Khun Nak (Queen

Ammarinthramat of King Rama I). It was believed that the area where the Prang (pagoda) is standing was the birthplace of Khun Nak's son or Khun Chim who later became King Rama II.

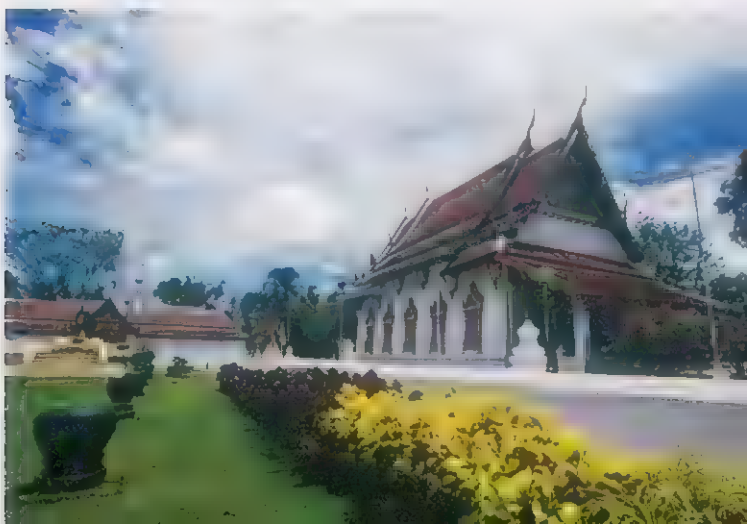
Wat Amphawan Chetiyaram was renovated several times by Kings Rama III, IV, and V. At present, it is a royal temple of the second class. The Ubosot (ordination hall) and permanent structures within the temple are mostly formed in the early Rattanakosin style of art and architecture. The ordination hall is a beautiful building. Furthermore, there is a Monument of King Rama II.

To get there

By car : Take Highway 35 (Thon Buri - Pak Tho). At Km. 63, drive through the town of Samut Songkhram and go on for another 6 km. to turn right to Highway 325 (Samut Songkhram - Bang Phae). Take a left turn between Km 36-37 for around 1 km.

By bus : Take a bus at the Municipal Market of Amphoe Mueang Samut Songkhram, routing from Mae Klong to Bang Nok Khwaek and Ratchaburi, and get off in front of Wat Amphawan Chetiyaram.

Wat Amphawan Chetiyaram

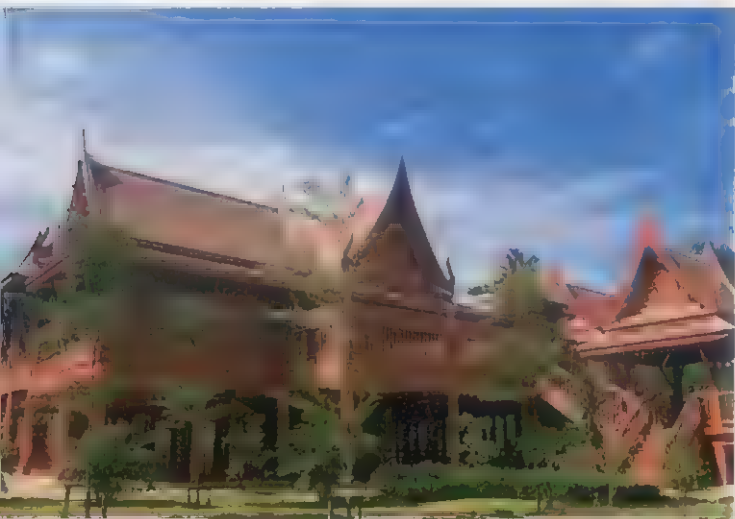


King Rama II Memorial Park (อุทยาน ร.๒) is the project to honour King Rama II by the King Rama II Memorial Foundation under Royal Patronage, for the royal graciousness of bestowing exquisite art and culture as a national treasure, which qualified King Rama II to be praised as a Person of the World by UNESCO. The construction site of the Memorial Park, which was given by Phra Ratchasamutmethi, an abbot of Wat Amphawan Chetiyaram, covers an area of around 11 rai. The area is important since it was a birthplace of King Rama II.

Within the King Rama II Memorial Park, there are many interesting spots:

King Rama II Museum is comprised of four Thai-styled buildings separated into sections. The Central Hall houses the statue of King Rama II and displays artefacts from the early Rattanakosin era, such as Bencharong pentachrome porcelain, pottery, Khon masks, etc. The Male Room presents the living quarters of heroic Thai men, with a Buddha image and a bed which is believed to have belonged to King Rama II. The Female Room displays living quarters of Thai women in the past, with a dresser, a mirror, etc. The Veranda imitates that of a traditional Thai house, decorated with pots of dwarfed

King Rama II Memorial Park



trees and decorative plants. The Kitchen and Restroom display a Thai kitchen with kitchenware and crockery, and a restroom of the middle class.

In addition, there is an open theatre and a botanical garden where plants in Thai literature have been collected. A shop here offers local products and young plants. The Park is shady with traditional Thai ambience. It is open daily, from 8.30 a.m. - 5.00 p.m. on Monday to Friday, and 8.30 a.m. - 5.30 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday. Admission fee, adults: 20 Baht; children: 5 Baht. For more information, call Tel. 0 3475 1666, Fax: 0 3475 1376.

To get there

By car : Take Highway 35 (Thon Buri - Pak Tho) to Km 63 and drive through the town of Samut Songkhram. Switch to Highway 325 (Samut Songkhram - Bang Phae). Take a left turn between Km 36-37 for around 1 km.

By bus : Take a bus at the Municipal Market of Amphoe Mueang Samut Songkhram, routing from Mae Klong to Bang Nok Khwaek and Ratchaburi, and get off in front of the Park.

Ban Phaya So (ศิลปะการทำขลุ่ยบ้านพญาซอ) "So" or a fiddle is a local musical instrument of the Central Region. Ban Phaya So is a house of the alto fiddle (So U) maker who combines the art of traditional Thai music with carving. A coconut that is used for making a fiddle will be carved with different designs, such as character figures, changeable rose flowers, name initials, names of the twelve astrological years, etc. Nowadays, this art is rarely seen. Visitors can see the art of carving and learn to play the fiddle at Khun Somphon Ketkao's house, at 43 Mu 5, Tambon Bang Phrom, Amphoe Bang Khonthi. For more information, call Tel. 0 3476 1949.

To get there : From the town of Samut Songkhram, follow Highway 325 (Samut Songkhram - Bang Phae) and take a left turn toward the King Rama II Memorial Park between Km. 36-37. Ban Phaya So is around 3 km. from the Park.

Wat Phummarin Kudi Thong (วัดภูมิรัตนคู่มือทอง)

is by the Mae Klong River, at the mouth of the Pracha Chom Chuen Canal on the west bank, in Tambon Suan Luang. There are many interesting items within the temple. Kudi Thong or a golden- teak monk's cell has an unusual story that the father of Khun Nak (Queen Ammarin-thramat) had her fortune examined by the abbot of Wat Bang Li. The abbot foretold that the daughter would become a queen. The millionaire father, therefore, promised to build a Kudi Thong for the temple if the abbot's words proved true. Wat Bang Li was later named Wat Bang Li Kudi Thong. When the temple soil was eroded and destroyed by water, the Kudi Thong was moved to be restructured at Wat Phummarin. Hence, Wat Phummarin was renamed "Wat Phummarin Kudi Thong." Furthermore, there is a Wat Phummarin Museum and an Educational Park, where valuable artefacts worth a study and conservation have been collected, such as Buddha images, traditional Thai books, blue-and-white porcelain and brassware. A Buddha image here, which is over three hundred years old, is a gilded stucco image in the posture of Subduing Mara, called "Phra Phuttha Rattana Mongkhon or Luangpho To." There is also a monument of King Rama II. For more information, contact Phra Palat Thawonpiyatharo at Tel. 0 3475 1492, 0 3475 1085.

Ban Dontri or House of Music (บ้านดนตรี) is located in the temple compound of Wat Kudi Thong. A school building is used for instructing traditional Thai music. The Samut Songkhram Primary School Office has envisioned that the cultural value of folk wisdom should be preserved and inherited to the next generation for their pride in the future. A voluntary group of traditional Thai musicians in the past has been formed to give music lessons for a new generation, so that the spirit of the music city would be passed down. The House of Music has operated since 1 July, 1999. It is open on Monday, Wednesday, Friday, Saturday and Sunday. For more information, call Tel. 0 3475 1500.

Wat Bang Khae Yai (วัดบางเคใหญ่) is located on the bank of the Mae Klong River, at the mouth of the Bang Khae Canal in Tambon Khwae Om. It was built in 1814. Inside the temple, there are ancient monuments and artefacts. The large Ubosot (ordination hall) is more than 150 years old. At the front, the square Chedi (pagoda) with twelve indented corners is the art of the Ayutthaya period. The laterite principal Buddha image in the ordination hall is in the posture of Subduing Mara. There are seven Dharma Chedis built in 1872 with a boundary wall. On a separating wall in a monk's cell, a tempera mural painting from the late reign of King Rama II depicts a battle between the Siamese and the Burmese, probably the one that King Rama II sent troops to obstruct the enemy at Ratchaburi in 1821. Admission is subject to permission in advance.

To get there : Take Highway 325 (Samut Songkhram - Bang Phae) and turn left to cross the Phra Si Suriyen Bridge. Then, turn right to Highway 3062 for about 2 km., past Wat Phummarin Kudi Thong, and see Wat Bang Khae Yai.

Ban Maeo Thai Boran (บ้านแมวไทยโบราณ) is a house where species of genuine Siamese cats have been conserved. It is located at 2/1 Mu 7, Tambon Khwae Om. The house of traditional Siamese cats was created by lovers of Siamese cats to promote and support the conservation of Siamese cats to be a treasure of the nation. It also gives information on genuine features of Siamese cats, supports research, exchanges knowledge and views between members, and exchanges research experiences and breeding with relevant bodies. Khun Pricha Phukkhabut, the co-founder and caretaker of the traditional Siamese cat house, told that "my mother raised Siamese cats of the Wichian Mat species when I was young. At that time, I did not pay much attention to them. When I grew up, I was to feed them. There were not many cats in my house. My family continued to keep Wichian

Mat cats and I had developed a bond with them. Later, some friends who were cat lovers talked about the conservation of the cat since it was clever, graceful, attractive, and had pleasing habits." Apart from the species of Wichian Mat, Siamese cats also include Si Sawat, Supphalak, and Koncha. Inside the house, there is a breeding section divided into cages of various types of Siamese cats. This is an interesting place for the study on a genuine species of Siamese cats. For more information, call Tel. 0 3473 3284, 08 4003 4194.

To get there : Take Highway 325 (Samut Songkhram - Bang Phae). Turn left to cross the Phra Si Suriyen Bridge and then turn right to Highway 3062. Cross the Pracha Chom Chuen Canal, past Wat Phummarin Kudi Thong and Wat Bang Khae Yai, and see the sign of the traditional Siamese cat house.

Wat Bang Khae Noi (วัดบางแคน้อย) is located in Tambon Khwae Om by the Mae Klong River. This temple was built by Khunying Chui (Noi) Wongsarot in 1868. Initially, the Ubosot (ordination hall) was built on the bamboo raft tied to a Bodhi tree on the river bank. At present, the temple is well restored. The most interesting thing is the ordination hall's inside walls which are woodcarvings depicting the Lord Buddha's history, birth, enlightenment, and nirvana, as well as stories of the Lord Buddha's Ten Incarnations or Jatakas. The beautiful and explicit design was made by craftsmen from Phetchaburi province where woodcarving is famous.

Wat Intharam (วัดอินทราราม) is located in Tambon Mueang Mai. This ancient temple was built in 1757 during the Ayutthaya period. It was renovated during the reign of King Rama III. There are many interesting points within the temple compound. Luangpho To, the Buddha image here is over 300 years old. The Ubosot (ordination hall), which was built from marble, has teak doors and window panels carved with proverbs. At the temple's pier, there is

a pond of Taphian carp and visitors can feed them. The temple sets aside an area as a mental rehabilitation centre using herbs and Dharma practice to treat drug addicts. Furthermore, an ancient boat museum project will be implemented here. For more information, call Tel. 0 3473 5315.

To get there : Take Highway 325 (Samut Songkhram - Bang Phae). Turn left to cross the Phra Si Suriyen Bridge and then turn right to Highway 3062. Turn right again to Highway 2002, past Amphawa Hospital, and follow Highway 2007. Alternatively, visitors can take bus No. 8131 from Samut Songkhram to Wat Kaeo Charoen's pier.

Amphoe Bang Khonthi

Church of the Virgin Mary or Atsana Wihan Maephra Bangkoet (อาสนวิหารแม่พระบังเกิด) is situated at Mu 7, Tambon Bang Nok Khwaek. This is a sacred place of worship of the Christians living in the area. It was built in 1890 by Father Paolo Salmone, a French missionary with supporting funds from his relatives in France, the overseas mission of Paris and Rome, and philanthropists in Bangkok. It took up to six years to complete the construction. The official opening ceremony was held on 11 February, 1896. It is a building of the French Gothic architectural style and coated with pounded lime. The interior is decorated with coloured stained glass. There are statues, a pulpit, a holy water basin, various kinds of candelabra and carvings depicting historical stories in the Bible. The church is not far from the river bank. Advance contact should be made to the priest in charge for a guided tour at Tel. 0 3476 1347.

To get there : Follow the Samut Songkhram - Bang Nok Khwaek route (the same way to King Rama II Memorial Park) for around 5 km. The church is around 100 m from the Somdet Phra Ammarin Bridge Junction.

Wat Charoen Sukharam Worawihan (วัดเจริญสุขารามวรวิหาร) is located in Tambon Bang Nok Khwaek, around 5 km from town. Within the temple, there is the Ubosot (ordination hall) built in a unique style with its ceiling curved like a boat's roof. The hall houses Luangpho To, a Buddha image of the Sukhothai period. This laterite image has a lap width of 178 cm and a height of 208 cm from the seating base to the halo. In front of the temple, a pond teems with fishes, especially Pla Taphian Ngoen and Pla Taphian Thong. Here, visitors can enjoy feeding the fish and having a bowl of delicious noodles.

To get there : Follow the Samut Songkhram - Bang Nok Khwaek route (the same way to King Rama II Memorial Park) for around 5 km, past the Church of the Virgin Mary, cross the Bang Nok Khwaek Bridge, and see the temple's sign on the right. Turn right for around 500 m.

Bang Kung Camp (ค่ายบางกุ้ง) is located at Mu 4, Tambon Bang Kung. When arriving at the camp site, visitors will firstly see an imitation wall built in memory of the battle. Here is a historic navy camp site. Following the second defeat of the Ayutthaya kingdom in 1767, King Taksin the Great moved the naval force to set up camp in the district of Bang Kung since Mueang Mae Klong (the city of Mac Klong) was in the way used by the Burmese army. A wall was built to make Wat Bang Kung be in the middle of the camp as a spirit centre for soldiers. King Taksin the Great later commanded the Chinese from Rayong, Chon Buri, Ratchaburi, and Kanchanaburi to form a guard unit for the camp. The camp was, therefore, called the "Bang Kung Chinese Camp." The king named the guards "Thahan Phakdi Asa" or the "voluntary loyal soldiers." In 1768, the Burmese king of Angwa led an army via Kanchanaburi to surround the camp. King Taksin the Great and Phra Maha Montri (Bunma) jointly fought and defeated the Burmese. It was the first battle against the Burmese after the Kingdom of Thon Buri had been

established by King Taksin the Great. The victory was hailed as moral support to the Thai people while it created a sense of fear among the Burmese army. The camp site was left deserted for almost 200 years. In 1967, the Ministry of Education established a boy scout camp on the site to celebrate King Taksin the Great, and also built a shrine as a memorial to the king. The ceremony to raise the shrine was held on 20 June 1968. Within the camp compound, there is the Ubosot (ordination hall) commonly called as "Bot Luangpho Dam," which was built in the Ayutthaya period. The hall is wholly covered by four species of ficus plants: Pho (Bodhi), Sai, Krai, and Krang. Therefore, it is also called "Bot Prok Pho" (ordination hall covered by Bodhi trees). The monument of King Taksin the Great is in the nearby area.

Wat Bang Kung (วัดบางกุ้ง) is located in the same area as the Bang Kung Camp, on the opposite side and separated by a road. Within the temple, there is an old ordination hall which houses a large sculptured Buddha image commonly called by villagers as Luangpho Bot Noi. Mural paintings from the late Ayutthaya period depict Lord Buddha while he was sitting in the niche and preaching, flanked by the disciples in paying respect to him. For more information, call Tel. 0 3476 1631, 08 9201 9684.

To get there : Follow the Samut Songkhram - Bang Nok Khwaek route (the same way to King Rama II Memorial Park). Turn left before the Church of the Virgin Mary to cross the Somdet Phra Ammarin Bridge. Turn left again and go straight for around 6 km.

Interesting Activities

Cruise the Mae Klong River (ล่องเรือชมทิวทัศน์สองฝั่งแม่กลอง) A boat for rent is available to see views along the river banks occupied by a line of houses. Among the houses are rarely-seen traditional ones called Ruean Panya or hip-roof houses. Furthermore, there are

riverside temples, such as Wat Amphawan, Wat Bang Khae Yai, Wat Bang Khae Noi, Wat Phummarin Kudi Thong, etc. Visitors can also take a boat ride into canals through coconut groves and lychee orchards amidst a shady ambience. This canal route is less known among visitors, but it is quite interesting.

Ecotourism

Mangrove Forest Plantation (กิจกรรมการปลูกป่าชายเลน) in Tambon Khlong Khon offers an interesting ecotourism activity at the mouth of the Mae Klong bay, not far from Bangkok. At present, the mangrove forest area has been increased to cover more than 2,000 rai. Most of the trees are Samae and Lamphu. Visitors can ride a long-tailed boat to explore the mangrove forest area, see birds and crab-eating macaque, as well as witness the fishermen's way of life closely. The Khlong Khon Sub-district Administration Organization Office will prepare a long-tailed boat, a sliding board, saplings and planting tools for visitors who wish to take part in mangrove reforestation. For more information, contact the Khlong Khon Sub-district Administration Organization Office (Oboto Khlong Khon) at Tel. 0 3473 1329.

To get there : Take Rama II Road. At Km 72, see the PTT petrol station, then turn left to the lane with an entrance sign to the Khao Yi San local museum for around 500 m, and turn left again for around 4 km.

Agro-tourism

How to make coconut palm sugar without using a bleaching agent (การทำน้ำตาลมะพร้าวโดยไม่ใช้สารฟอกสี) Dao Dong Agricultural Group of Housewives (Mrs. Prueang Makkhasap) 34 Mu 4, Tambon Khlong Khoen, Amphoe Mueang, Tel. 0 3476 3900; Khun Yupha, Tel. 08 6040 1207.

How to grow pomelos without using pesticide (การปลูกส้มโอโดยไม่ใช้สารเคมีกำจัดศัตรูพืช) Mr. Somsong

Saengtawan 29/2 Mu 3, Tambon Bang Phrom, Amphoe Bang Khonthi, Tel. 0 3476 1985.

Chili products (ผลิตภัณฑ์น้ำพริกต่างๆ) Thoet Thai Ruam Chai Agricultural Group of Housewives (Mrs. Thongho Sutsawat) (กลุ่มแม่บ้านเกษตรกรเทิดไทร่วมใจ (นางทองห่อ สุดสว่าง) 47 Mu 9, Tambon Mueang Mai, Amphoe Amphawa, Tel. 0 3473 5106.

Food and product centre

Thoet Thai Ruam Chai Agricultural Group of Housewives (กลุ่มแม่บ้านเกษตรกรเทิดไทร่วมใจ) (Mrs. Thongyip Kaeoninlakun) 34/1 Mu 9, Tambon Mueang Mai, Amphoe Amphawa.

Homestay

Ban Tha Kha (บ้านท่าคา) is located in Tha Kha village, Tambon Tha Kha, Amphoe Amphawa, and operated by a group of Tha Kha villagers. Visitors will stay with the villagers, witness how to collect coconut sap, simmer coconut sugar, paddle around the orchards, see fireflies at night or visit Tha Kha Floating Market (an overnight stay is recommended before the day scheduled for the local market). For more information, contact the Tha Kha Sub-district Administration Organization at Tel. 0 3476 6208, 0 3476 6123, 0 3476 6094; Khun Thawip Chueathai at Tel. 0 3476 6170; and Khun Sap Phongphet at Tel. 0 3476 6190.

Ban Suan Ruean Thai (บ้านสวนเรือนไทย) (Talat Nam Tha Kha) is located at 27 Mu 2, Tambon Tha Kha. Visitors will experience the villagers' way of life by the canal. Activities include offering morning alms to Buddhist monks, visiting orchards, seeing how to simmer coconut sugar, paddling along the canal, seeing fireflies at night, taking traditional massage (advance booking), and riding a boat to Tha Kha Floating Market. Contact Village Headman Urai Silueang at Tel. 0 3476 6322, 08 6789 8130.

Baan Rim Khlong (around Khlong Phi Lok)

(บ้านริมคลอง) is located at 43/1 Mu 6, Tambon Ban Prok, Amphoe Mueang, Tel. 0 3475 2775, 08 1659 1189, 08 9170 2904. There are 10 houses; 600-1,500 Baht. (400 Baht/night including 2 meals and boat trips to see fireflies and visit Tha Kha Floating Market, and 900 Baht/night including 3 meals and boat trips to see fireflies and plant a tree at the Khlong Khon mangrove forest.) Contact can be made via e-mail address: baan-rimkhlong@yahoo.com. Activities include ■ boat ride along the canal and the Mae Klong River, a visit to the art group of handicrafts made from wood and coconut shell, traditional massage, and a boat trip to see fireflies. www.baanrimkhlong.com.

Ban Hua Hat (บ้านหัวหาด) is located in Hua Hat village, Tambon Mueang Mai, Amphoe Amphawa. Activities include giving morning alms to Buddhist monks, a visit to see processed agricultural products and Thapthim fish (Red Tilapia) farming, a boat to see fruit orchards, and a visit to Ban Dontri Thai. For more information, contact Khun Thongyip Kaeoninlakun at Tel. 0 3473 5073.

Mu Ban Ruean Thai (Village of Traditional Thai Houses) (หมู่บ้านเรือนไทย) is situated at Mu 6, Tambon Plai Phongphang, Amphoe Amphawa. Activities include giving morning alms to Buddhist monks, a visit to pay homage to revered Buddha images at temples, a visit to see the villagers' way of life along the canal, a firewood oven for making coconut sugar, and traditional Thai houses. For more information, contact Sub-district Headman Thawat Bunphat at Tel. 08 1403 7907, 0 3475 3919. Fax: 0 3475 3920.

Thai Boat House Amphawa Homestay (บ้านเรือไทยอัมพวาโฮมสเตย์) is located at 18 Mu 6, Tambon Suan Luang, Amphoe Amphawa, Tel. 08 6551 0549, 08 1774 8589, or visit www.thaiboathouse.com (650-1,500 Baht/person, including meals, river cruising and morning alms giving.)

Nayok Oboto Suan Luang Homestay (โฮมสเตย์ นายกอบต. สวนหลวง) is situated by the Pracha Chom Chuen Canal, Tambon Suan Luang, Amphoe Amphawa, Tel. 08 1793 5560, 0 3475 1023, 0 3473 2623. There are 10 houses; 450 Baht/person, including 2 meals, and 700 Baht/person, including 2 meals and boat trips to see fireflies at night and visit Tha Kha Floating Market in the morning.

Tour

One-day Tour to Samut Songkhram

Route I

Morning

- 6.30 a.m. Depart Bangkok for Samut Songkhram.
Take the Session Phetchakasem - Ratchaburi route and enter Samut Songkhram via the Bang Phae - Samut Songkhram Junction.
- 7.30 a.m. Visit Tha Kha Floating Market (held only at weekends and on the second, seventh, and twelfth days of the waning or waxing moon in the lunar month).
- 9.30 a.m. Witness the making of coconut sugar on a firewood stove beside Highway 325, between Km. 30-34.
- 10.00 a.m. Proceed to Ban Bencharong (Bencharong Pentachrome Porcelain House).
See the making of Bencharong porcelain.
- 10.40 a.m. Leave for Wat Amphawan and the King Rama II Memorial Park.
- 12.00 a.m. Lunch.

Afternoon

- 1.00 p.m. Witness the making of "So U" (an alto fiddle) at Session Ban Phaya So (Contact should be made in advance).
- 2.00 p.m. Visit Atsana Wihan Maephra Bangkoet or the Church of the Virgin Mary.

(Contact should be made in advance for a visit inside the church).

3.00 p.m. Visit Khai Bang Kung or Bang Kung Camp and Bot Prok Pho (the ordination hall under the cover of Bodhi trees).

4.00 p.m. Travel back to Bangkok via Rama II Road (Thon Buri - Pak Tho Road). Drop by the Market of Mae Klong Famous Products at Km. 65 and Bang Kaeo Market at Km. 58 to buy souvenirs (open on Thursday or Sunday only).

Route II

Morning

7.00 a.m. Depart from Bangkok. Take Rama II Road Session (Thon Buri - Pak Tho Road).

8.00 a.m. Visit the museum of Wat Khao Yi San on Rama II Road, at Km 72. (For those who are interested in ecotourism activities and a boat trip to see the mangrove forest plantation project, contact the Khlong Khon Sub-district Administration Organization Office (Oboto Khlong Khon) in advance. The trip takes about 1 1/2 hours.

10.00 a.m. Visit Don Hoi Lot. Pay homage to the shrine of Krommaluang Chumphonkhetudomsak (a boat trip to Don Hoi Lot is available).

12.00 a.m. Lunch. Drop by the shops at Don Hoi Lot to buy souvenirs.

Afternoon

1.00 p.m. Witness the mother-of-pearl-inlaid golden teak Session ordination hall at Wat Satthatham (Wat Mon) and sample Kalamae-Raman (coconut toffee).

2.00 p.m. Arrive at the town of Samut Songkhram. Pay homage to Luangpho Ban Laem at Wat Phetsamut

Events and Festivals

Fair in Honour of King Rama II (งานเฉลิมพระเกียรติพระบาทสมเด็จพระพุทธเลิศหล้านภาลัย) To be held in February at the King Rama II Memorial Park in Amphoe Amphawa. There are performances, a demonstration of traditional Thai desserts, folk plays, outdoor classical Thai masked dance, handicrafts, and local products for sale.

Lychee Fair (งานวันลิ้นจี่) To be held from around the end of March to the early of April in Amphoe Amphawa (subject to the produce of each year).

Luangpho Ban Laem Fair (งานนมัสการและสร้างน้ำหลวงพ่อบ้านแหลม) To be held between 13-19 April every year at Wat Phetsamut Worawihan in Amphoe Mueang Samut Songkhram.

Khanom Khrok-Sugar Alms-giving Ceremony (งานประเพณีทำบุญตักบาตรขนมกรอกและน้ำตาลทราย) is organised annually on the 8th day of the waxing moon of the 10th lunar month at Wat Kaen Chan Charoen, Amphoe Bang Khonthi.

Khao Yai Pomelo Fair (งานส้มโอพันธุ์ขาวใหญ่) To be held at the end of August every year.

Amphawa Food Fair and Afternoon Floating Market (มหกรรมอาหารริมเขื่อนอัมพวา และตลาดน้ำยามเย็น) is held in August in front of the Amphawa District Office.

Mackerel Eating and Mae Klong Famous Products Festival (เทศกาลกินปลาและของดีเมืองแม่กลอง) To be held in front of City Hall in December.

Facilities in Samut Songkhram Accommodations

(Note: The room rates mentioned in this brochure may be changed without notice. Please ask for current information from each hotel before making reservation.)

Amphoe Mueang Samut Songkhram

Alongkorn 1 (อลงกรณ์) 541/15 Kasem Sukhum Road (near Khum Supermarket), Tambon Mae Klong, Tel. 0 3471 1017, 37 rooms, 150-250 Baht.

Alongkorn 2 (อลงกรณ์) 540 Kasem Sukhum Road, Tambon Mae Klong, Tel. 0 3471 1709, 38 rooms, 150-250 Baht.

Ban Chom Duean (บ้านชมเดือน) 39/4 Mu 9, Km. 38 Samut Songkhram - Bang Phae Road (Highway No. 325), Tambon Ban Prok, Tel. 0 3475 2200-1, 22 rooms, 700-3,000 Baht.

Baan Hinghoy (บ้านหึ่งห้อย) 57/2, Km. 69 Rama II Road, Tambon Bang Khan Taek, Tel. 08 9532 5024, 0 3477 1375, www.maeklongtoday.com/home/baanhinghoy.htm, 6 rooms, 800 Baht.

Baan Khuntawee (บ้านขุนทวี) 1285 Pathummalai Road, Tambon Mae Klong, Tel. 0 3471 2021, 08 1337 3020, 08 1780 7822 www.amphawatoday.com/home/baankhuntawee 5 rooms, 1,500-3,000 Baht.

Baan Klong Clone Resort (บ้านคลองโคนรีสอร์ท) 59/7 Mu 3, Tambon Khlong Khon, Tel. 08 1809 9649, 08 9764 3001, Fax. 0 2422 3298, www.baanklongclone.com, 7 bungalows, 1,500-4,000 Baht.

Ban Maenum (บ้านแม่น้า) near Wat Maenam, 57/2 Mu 6, Tambon Bang Khan Taek, Tel. 08 9034 8111, 08 1646 8907, 0 3476 7566-7, www.banmaenum.com, 14 bungalows, 1,500-2,500 Baht.

Baan Maichailane (บ้านไม้ชายเลน) 137/1 Mu 5, Tambon Khlong Khone, Tel. 08 0021 1166, 08 9919 5443, 08 9615 2150 www.baanmaichailane.com, 28 houses, 1,200-7,500 Baht.

Ban Mai Hom (บ้านไม้หอม) 36/1 Mu 3, Tambon Bang Chakreng, Tel. 08 5906 0011, 08 6808 8000, 4 bungalows, 400 Baht/person (inclusive of breakfast) and 600 Baht/bungalow/4 persons.

Ban Phak Chao Le (บ้านพักชาวเล-อสมชอนเมืองไทย) 50/6 Mu 6, Tambon Ban Prok, Tel. 0 3475 2681, 08 1792 9346, 08 1012 8926, 3 bungalows, 600-800 Baht.

Ban Rim Khlong (บ้านริมคลอง) 43/1 Mu 6, Tambon Ban Prok, Tel. 0 3475 2775, 08 9170 2904, 5 bungalows, 600-1,500 Baht. 400 Baht/persons. (Activities: biking) (firefly watching by boat - 800 Baht/hour 10 persons), www.baanrimklong.com

Baan Sang Chun (บ้านแสงจันทร์) 82/3 Mu 8, Tambon Ban Prok, Tel. 08 1412 2777, 08 1857 4593, 0 3472 5310 www.baansangchun.com, 7 houses, 1,200-4,500 Baht.

Baan Suan Puttaraksa (บ้านสวนพุทธรักษา) 49/5 Mu 3, Soi Wat Nang Phim, Tambon Bang Khan Taek, Tel. 0 3475 1038, 08 1573 3130, 08 5190 9544, Fax. 0 3475 1038, www.puttaraksa.com, 5 bungalows, 1,200- 2,000 Baht.

Ban Suan Resort (บ้านสวนรีสอร์ท) 81/3-7 Mu 2, Soi Chonlaprathan (opposite Samut Songkhram Technical College), 1.8 km. off Ekkachai Road (on the way to the Eng - Chang Memorial), Tambon Lat Yai, Tel. 0 3471 7761, 5 bungalows, 700-1,200 Baht.

Baan Tai Had Resort and Water Sport (บ้านท่าหาดรีสอร์ท แอนด์ วอเตอร์ สปอร์ต) 1 Mu 2, Tambon Thai Hat, Tel. 0 3476 7220-4, Fax. 0 3476 7221, www.baantaihad.com, 53 rooms, 1,600-4,500 Bath

Baan Talay See Cream Resort (บ้านทะเลสีคราม รีสอร์ท) 3/20 Mu 4, Tambon Bang Chakreng, Tel. 0 3476 2868, 0 3476 2867, www.talayseecream.com, 32 rooms, 1,500-7,500 Baht.

Baan View Mae Num (บ้านวิวแม่น้ำ) 5/1 Mu 6, Soi Wat Chong Lom, Tambon Ban Prok, Tel. 08 1880 0083, 08 4019 5225 www.baanviewmaenum.com, 7 rooms, 1,500-3,000 Baht.

Damrongkun Homestay (ดำรงกุล โฮมสเตย์) 54/2 Mu 1, Tambon Khlong Khoen, Tel. 0 3471 6624, 08 1554 4817, 4 houses, 600-800 Baht.

First Inn (เฟิสท์อินน์) 5, Km. 71 Thon Buri - Pak Tho Road, Tambon Bang Khan Taek, Tel. 0 3473 2921-2, 50 rooms, 210-550 Baht.

Home Krateng Chao Le (โฮมกระเตงชาวเล) 124/2 Mu 7, Tambon Khlong Khone, Tel. 08 1941 9152, 08 7828 5420, 0 3473 1221 www.homekrateng.com, 3 houses, Bt 900-1,100. (inclusive of 2 meals, boat trip, visiting the mangrove forest and catching cockles by using a sliding board along the muddy sand at low tide.)

Khum Saeng Thong (คุ้มแสงทอง) 37/2 Mu 6, Soi Wat Langka, Samut Songkhram - Bang Phae Road, Tambon Khlong Khoen, Tel. 0 3475 2087, 08 1917 4362, 10 rooms, 500-700 Baht.

The Lazy River House (เดอะเลซี่ ริเวอร์เฮาส์) 3 km. before reaching the Amphawa Floating Market and 1.5 km. off the main road, Mu 9, Tambon Ban Prok, Tel. 08 6886 8283, 08 6310 1371, Fax. 0 2542 4570, or www.lazyriverhouse.com, 1 house (12 persons), 2,500-8,500 Baht.

Mae Klong Hotel (แม่กลองโฮเต็ล) opposite Wat Phetchasamut next to Thawichit Department Store, 526/10-13 Si Champa Road, Tambon Mae Klong, Tel. 0 3471 1150, 18 rooms, 200-650 Baht.

Mae Klong River Resort (แม่กลองริเวอร์รีสอร์ท) 6/7 Mu 2 Tambon Tai Hat, Tel. 08 4316 7778, 08 9775 5258 Fax. 0 3476 7499 www.maeklongriverresort.com, 7 houses, 800-2,800 Baht.

Nara Court (นาราคอร์ท) 81 Mu 6, Km. 56 Rama II Road, Tambon Bang Kaeo, Tel. 0 3471 6718-9, 0 3471 6762, 48 rooms, 500-1,000 Baht.

Rainbow Inn (เรนโบว์อินน์) 50/3 Thon Buri - Pak Tho Road, Tambon Mae Klong, Tel. 0 3471 1286, 40 rooms, 200-340 Baht.

Ruean Chay Lam (เรือนชายแหลม บ้านพักโฮมสเตย์) 25 Mu 3, Tambon Thai Hat, Tel. 08 9814 2878, 08 5190 6390 www.chaylaem.com, 1 house, 300-1,100 Baht.

Ruean Mae Lumpoo (เรือนแม่ลำพู่) 15 Mu 3, Tambon Thai Hat, Tel. 0 3476 7010-1, 08 1657 7427, www.maelumpoo.com, 10 bungalows, 950-1,650 Baht.

San Suk Resort (บ้านแสนสุขรีสอร์ท) 39 Mu 3, Tambon Suan Luang, Tel. 08 1438 8557, 08 5830 6238, 03471 2557, www.amphawatoday.com/home/sansukresort, 2 houses, 1,000-2,000 Baht.

Suksawrade Home Stay and Resort (บ้านสุขสวัสดิ์โฮมสเตย์ แอนด์ รีสอร์ท) 87/1 Mu 7, Tambon Khlong Khoen, Tel. 0 3471 7139, 08 4141 4183, 08 9137 9481, www.maeklongtoday.com/home/suksawrade/index.htm, 9 bungalows, 200-800 Baht.

Thai Sawat (ไทยสวัสดิ์) 524-526 Phetchasamut Road, Tambon Mae Klong, Tel. 0 3471 1205, 12 rooms, 160 Baht (electric fan and shared bathroom).

Young Coco Resort (มะพร้าวอ่อนรีสอร์ท) 87/1 Mu 7, Tambon Khlong Khoen, Tel. 0 3471 7139, 08 9688 4114, 10 houses, 300-1,500 Baht.

Amphoe Amphawa

(a Amphawa Home of Love (บ้านรักริมคลองอัมพวา) 355 Soi Rong Che Amphawa (Opposite to Wat Amphawan Chetiyaram), Khlong Amphawa Road, Tambon Amphawa, Tel. 08 9128 3838, 08 4098 3083, 7 rooms, 750-1,200 Baht.

Baan Amphawa Resort and Spa (บ้านอัมพวารีสอร์ท แอนด์ สปา) 22 Bang Kaphom - Kaeo Fa Road, Tel. 0 3475 2222, Fax. 0 3475 2229, www.baanamphawa.com, 33 rooms, 2,700-12,900 Baht.

Baan Budsabong (บ้านบุษบง) 40 Mu 9, Tambon Mueang Mai, Tel. 08 6050 7701, 0 3473 5134, www.maeklongcenter.com/baanbudsabong.htm, 3 bungalows (20 persons), 200-250 Baht/person.

Baan Dalha (บ้านดงหลา) 1 Mu 11, Tambon Suan Luang, Tel. 0 3475 1023, 08 1793 5560, www.baandalha.com, 10 bungalows, 300-700 Baht/person.

Ban Fon Homestay (บ้านฝนโฮมสเตย์) 27 Soi Mangkon (Near Rong Che Amphawa), Pracha U-thit Road, Tambon Amphawa, Tel. 08 6889 7294, 08 1286 7287, 3 rooms, 200 Baht.

Baan Kamathap (เรือนรอน้ำ บ้านกามเทพ) 22 Mu 10, Tambon Suan Luang, Tel. 0 3473 3159, 08 5064 1635, 08 1016 4167, www.maeklongtoday.com/baankamathap.htm, 1 house, 400-4,000 Baht/person (inclusive of breakfast).

Baan Khunyay Sainam (บ้านคุณยายสายน้ำ) 11 Mu 5, Tambon Khwae Om, Tel. 08 6370 9534, 08 3983 5758, www.maeklongcenter.com/baankhunaysainan.htm, 1 house (20 persons), 1,500 Baht.

Ban Kilakarn (บ้านกิลกาธ) 61 Mu 9 Tambon Tha Kha, Tel. 08 6312 0855 www.amphawatoday.com/home/onceatampwa 8 rooms, 3,500-4,000 Baht.

Baan Klang Suan (บ้านกลางสวน) 211/1 Mu 8, Tambon Plai Phongphang, Tel. 0 3473 4340, 08 5297 9159, 08 9890 3950, www.baanklangsuan.com, 8 rooms, 600-2,400 Baht. (A meeting room for 40 persons is available.)

Baan Klong Ampawa (บ้านคลองอัมวา) Tambon Bang Chang, Tel. 08 5318 9096, 0 3475 1551, www.baanklongampawa.com 5 rooms, 250-2,300 Baht/10 persons.

Ban Ko Phai (บ้านกอไผ่) 19 Mu 2, Tambon Suan Luang, Tel. 08 1341 1560, 08 1644 0057, www.baankorpai.com 11 bungalows, 1,500-4,500 Baht/night/2 persons (inclusive of breakfast, firefly watching, visiting the floating market and temples.)

Ban Kung Jumpee Resort (บ้านกุงจัมปี รีสอร์ท) 59/2 Mu 14, Tambon Suan Luang, Tel. 0 3475 2035, 08 1458 1779, 08 1409 8520, www.bankungjumpee.com, 5 bungalows, 800-4,000 Baht (590-890 Baht/person).

Baan Mai Chay Klong (บ้านไม้ชายคลอง) 20/1 Mu 5, Tambon Suan Luang, Tel. 08 1856 3990, 08 6571 8488, www.baanmaichayklong.com, 12 bungalows, 1,200-4,500

Baht. (A seminar room for 50 persons is available.)

Ban Muang Mai (บ้านม่วงไม้) (Near Talat Nam Yam Yen Amphawa) 135 Khlong Amphawa Road, Tambon Amphawa, Tel. 08 9613 7838 www.baanmuangmai.com, 3 rooms, 700-900 Baht.

Bannarak Homestay (บ้านบารณารักโฮมสเตย์) 38 Mu 2, Tambon Bang Khae, Tel. 0 3475 1888, 08 1705 0661, 08 9786 2942, 4 rooms (16 persons), 600 Baht/person inclusive of 2 meals (house on the canal, firefly watching by row boat).

Baan Phensuras (บ้านสวนริมน้ำเพ็ญสุรศรี) 40/3 Mu 9 (south of Wat Rat Burana), Tambon Mueang Mai, Tel. 0 3475 3301-2, 08 1610 6513, www.maeklongcenter.com/baanphensuras.htm, 5 houses, 650-2,500 Baht (800-900 Baht/persons inclusive of breakfast, 250 Baht for an extra person.)

Baan Rak Num - Rim Khlong (บ้านรักน้ำ-ริมคลอง) 41/1 Mu 1, Tambon Bang Khae, Tel. 08 1008 7778, 08 1857 2012, www.maeklongcenter.com/baanraknum.htm, 4 rooms, 800-1,300 Baht.

Ban Ruea Rim Khlong (บ้านเรือริมคลอง) 11/2, Km. 8 Mae Klong - Pak Tho Road (old route), Tambon Plai Phongphang, Tel. 08 1823 5544, Fax. 0 3475 3988, 2 boats (large "iamchun" boat - 8 persons), 1,500 Baht/ 2 persons inclusive of breakfast (500 Baht for every extra person), www.baanruarimklong.com

Ban Ruean Phen (บ้านเรือนพิณ) 13 Mu 5, Tambon Suan Luang, Tel. 0 3475 1468, 08 6305 6685, www.thairi vertour.com, 8 rooms, 600-2,500 Baht, activities: firefly watching at night, visiting lychee and pomelo orchards, and orchid farm.

Baan Suan Ampawa (บ้านสวนอัมพวา) 15 Mu 12, Tambon Suan Luang, Tel. 0 3475 1604, 0 3475 1604, 08 6341 7537, www.baansuanampawa.com 6 rooms, 1,000 Baht (inclusive of breakfast).

Baan Subkasam (บ้านสุภะเกษม) 12/1 Mu 2 (near Somdet Phra Si Suriyen Bridge), Tambon Suan Luang, Tel. 0 3475 2305, 08 9238 9985, 08 1371 2099

www.maeklongtoday.com/baansubkasam.htm, 4 bungalows, 600-2,000 Baht (300 Baht/person inclusive of breakfast).

Baan Suan Bang Chang (บ้านสวนบางช้าง) 12 Mu 3, Tambon Suan Luang, Tel. 08 5076 7881, 08 3833 6076, www.baansuanbangchang.com, 3 houses (16 persons), 1,000-2,000 Baht.

Ban Suan Khun Ya (บ้านสวนคุณย่า) 11/1 Mu 5 Tambon Bangkhae, Tel. 08 1557 0824, 6 rooms, 800-1,500 Baht. www.amphawatoday.com/home/baansuankunya

Ban Suan Pasertporn (บ้านสวนประเสริฐพร) 61/3-4 (on the canal opposite Wat Bang Khae Klang), Tambon Bang Nang Li, Tel. 08 1403 0357, 08 9494 8898, www.pasertporn.com, 6 bungalows, 1,000-4,500 Baht.

Ban Suan Tan Homestay and Resort (บ้านสวนตาลโฮมสเตย์ แอนด์ รีสอร์ท) 9/2 Mu 2, Tambon Tha Kha, Tel. 0 3476 6324, 08 9885 9466, 6 bungalows, 350 Baht/person.

Baan Suan Sawasdee (บ้านสวนสวัสดิ์โฮมสเตย์) 224 Bang Phae - Samut Songkhram Road, Tambon Amphawa, Tel. 0 3475 1039, 08 6999 3256, www.baansuanawasdee.com, 2 rooms, 200-350 Baht/person.

Baan Supanee (สุพาณี โฮมสเตย์) 61 Mu 7, Tambon Mueang Mai, Tel. 0 3473 5107, 08 9520 5023, www.maeklongcenter.com/baansupanee.htm, 2 rooms, 500 Baht/person (1 night and 2 meals).

Ban Thinothai Homestay (บ้านธิน้อยโฮมสเตย์) 347 (on Khlong Amphawa near the afternoon floating market), Tambon Amphawa, Tel. 08 9686 5844, 08 1949 1377, 4 houses, 700-2,500 Baht/person (activities: firefly watching and alms-giving in the morning). www.tinothai.com

Baan Torsang Amphawa (บ้านทองแสง อัมพวา) 23 Mu 8, Tambon Suan Luang, Tel. 0 3475 1390, 08 1875 5850, www.bantorsang.com, 5 rooms and 6 bungalows, 1,000-1,500 Baht (inclusive of breakfast).

Ban Tuang Ngoen (บ้านตวงเงิน) Bang Kaphom Community 2 (opposite Wat Kaeo Fa), 194/2 Tambon Amphawa, Tel. 08 7151 4008, 08 0428 3642, 08 4026

9991, www.thongnenghomestay.9nha.com, 4 bungalows, 1,000-2,500 Baht (inclusive of breakfast).

Dao Thong Homestay (ดาวทอง โฮมสเตย์) 20/1 Mu 3, Tambon Plai Phongphang, Tel. 08 1758 5274, 08 4981 1195, 3 houses, 1,000-3,000 Baht.

Khung Ram Lum Homestay (คุ้มรับลม โฮมสเตย์) Tambon Suan Luang, Tel. 08 6527 9048, 08 1943 5751, www.maeklongtoday.com/home/khungramlum/index.htm, 4 rooms, 800-2,500 Baht.

Kung Macnum Homestay (บ้านคุ้มแม่น้ำ โฮมสเตย์) 42 Bang Kaphom Road, Tambon Amphawa, Tel. 0 3472 5088, 08 1745 3318, www.bankungmaenum.com, 5 rooms, 800-2,500 Baht.

Namkeangruen Homestay (บ้านน้ำเคียงเรือน) 153-155-157 (on Khlong Amphawa next to the Amphawa Floating Market), Tel. 08 6626 5569, 08 6507 8598, www.freewebs.com/namkeangren, Email: 555hihi@gmail.com, 6 rooms, 150-900 Baht (secure parking area available).

Ploen Amphawa Resort (เพลินอำพาว รีสอร์ท) 279 Khlong Amphawa Road, Tambon Amphawa, Tel. 08 1458 9411 www.ploenamphawa.com, 4 rooms, 1,200-3,000 Baht.

Relax Smile (รีแลกซ์ สไมล์ รีสอร์ท) (Opposite to the Bang Khae Subdistrict Administration Organization) 58 Mu 5, Pholmai Road, (Wat Pradu-Ratchaburi Road), Tambon Bang Khae, Tel. 08 1446 3995 Fax. 0 3470 1279 www.relaxsmileresort.com, 17 houses, 1,000-5,000 Baht.

Roen Sabay (เรือนสบาย) 249 Tambon Amphawa, Tel. 08 6344 7418, 0 3472 5871, www.maeklongtoday.com/home/roensabay/index.htm, 7 rooms and 1 house, 500-1,000 Baht.

Ruean Mai Chai Khlong (เรือนไม้ชายคลอง) 35 Mu 6, Tambon Suan Luang, Tel. 08 7009 4423, 0 3473 7034, 12 rooms, 700-3,000 Baht.

Ruean Suan Wan Chan (เรือนสวนวันจันทร์) 28 Mu 2, Tambon Bang Nang Li, Tel. 08 1753 3237, 08 7161 0960.

0 3477 2543, Fax. 0 2583 9736, 3 bungalows, 200-500 Baht.

Srivara Garden Home (บ้านสวนศรีวรา) 10 Mu 5, Tambon Wat Pradu, Tel. 0 3476 5018, 08 7111 9500, Fax. 0 3476 5018, www.maeklongtoday.com/baansuan-srivara.htm, 6 bungalows, 2,000 Baht.

Thanicha Resort (ธานีชา รีสอร์ท) 261 Rim khlong Amphawa, Tel. 0 3472 5511, 08 9104 5444, Fax. 0 3475 1258, www.thanicha.com, 10 rooms, 990-3,600 Baht (inclusive of breakfast).

Amphoe Bang Khonthi

Aumporn Riverside Resort (อัมพร ริเวอร์ไซด์ รีสอร์ท) 14/2 Mu 6, Tambon Bang Khonthi, Tel. 08 9103 1033, www.aumpornriverside.com, 11 rooms, 1,200-1,500 Baht.

Baan Budsaba Homestay (เรือนบุษบา โฮมสเตย์) 8 Mu 4, Tambon Bang Kung, Tel. 08 5910 0909, www.amphawatoday.com/home/ruenbudsaba/index.htm, 4 rooms, 800-1,000 Baht. email: nongnue.n@gmail.com

Baan Chid Chon (บ้านจิตชน) 36 Mu 6, Tel. 08 9171 7439, 08 9319 8663. www.maeklongcenter.com/baanchidchon.htm, 5 rooms, 900-1,200 Baht.

Bang Kontee Homestay (บางคนที่ โฮมสเตย์) 15/7 Mu 6, Tambon Bang Khonthi, Tel. 08 9232 4527, 08 5100 5432, www.maeklongdee.com/bangkontee/index.htm, 10 houses, 600-2,000 Baht (inclusive of breakfast).

Bang Noi Koy Rak (บางน้อยคอยรัก) (Near Bang Noi Floating Market) 83 Mu 8, Tambon Kradang Nga, Tel. 08 6733 0614, 2 rooms, 800-3,000 Baht.

Ban Nuanchan Resort (บ้านนวลจันทร์ รีสอร์ท) 9/2 Mu 4, Soi Wat Kaenchan, Tambon Bang Phrom, Tel. 08 9910 8635, 08 9259 9417, Fax. 0 3476 1597, www.amphawatoday.com/home/baannuanchan.htm, 8 bungalows, 900-2,200 Baht (inclusive of breakfast).

Baan Sinesanit (บ้านสินะสนธิ) 7/1 Mu 5, Tambon Yai Phaeng, Tel. 08 6761 9960, 08 9928 1738, 10 rooms, 600-2,500 Baht.

Baan Suan Khun Yine (บ้านสวนคุณยาย) 8 Mu 3, Tambon Yai Phaeng, Tel. 08 9027 8659, 0 3473 0659,

www.maeklongcenter.com/baansuankhunyne.htm,
2 houses, 400-500 Baht/person (inclusive of breakfast).

Baan Suan Lanna Resort (บ้านสวนล้านนา รีสอร์ท)
44/1 Mu 5, Soi Phaya So, Tambon Bang Phrom,
Tel. 08 7026 5008, 08 48003240, www.bansuanlanna.com.
5 bungalows, 800-1,200 Baht (inclusive of breakfast).

Baan Suan Manowejchapun (บ้านสวนมนเฑียรพันธ์)
3 Mu 3, Tambon Yai Phaeng, Tel. 0 3473 8234,
08 1805 9748, 08 9894 6282, 4 bungalows for 20-30
persons, 400-500 Baht/persons (inclusive of 2 meals).

Baan Suan Pungtong (บ้านสวนพวงทอง) (on Khlong
Chom Pluak) 54/1 Mu 1, Tambon Chom Pluak, Tel. 0 3470
3610, 08 1339 5571, 08 9043 2552 www.maeklongcenter.com/baansuanpungtong.htm, house, 400-500 Baht (inclusive
of breakfast).

Ban Suan Rak (บ้านสวนรัก) 34 Mu 5, Tambon Rong
Hip, Tel. 08 1286 8717, 08 1880 8157, 0 3470 2725, www.bansuanrak.com, 6 rooms, 180-1,200 Baht.

Baan Suan Sang Tawan Homestay (บ้านสวนแสง
ตะวันโฮมสเตย์) (near Wat Bang Phlap) 9/4 Mu 4, Tambon Bang
Phrom, Tel. 0 3476 1985, 08 1274 4433, 08 9829 7100,
15 bungalows, 350-1,000 Baht (inclusive of breakfast).

Baan Suan Sinetong (บ้านสวนทรายทอง) 1/2 Mu 1,
Tambon Kradang-nga, Tel. 08 4022 4296, 08 9507 2073,
www.baansuansaitong.com, 9 bungalows, 250-1,200 Baht
(inclusive of breakfast).

Baan Suan Sukjarearn (บ้านสวนสุขเจริญ) 99 Mu 3,
Tambon Chom Pluak, Tel. 08 1371 5231, 0 3476 2744,
www.maeklongcenter.com/baansuansukjarearn.htm,
1 house, 300 Baht/person (inclusive of 2 meals).

Ban Thipphawan (บ้านทิพย์วัฒย์) 59/1 Mu 9, Tambon
Kradang-nga, Tel. 0 3473 0205, 08 1208 3903, 2 rooms,
800-1,200 Baht (inclusive of breakfast).

Ban Thip Suan Thong (บ้านทิพย์สวนทอง) 54 Mu 2,
Tambon Bang Phrom, Tel. 0 3476 1753-5, 08 1816 3077,
Fax. 0 3473 0095, www.banthip.com, 25 bungalows,
40 rooms, 1,200-1,600 Baht (inclusive of breakfast).

Baanyok Homestay (บ้านนอกโฮมสเตย์) 13 Mu 4, Tambon Bang Phrom, Tel. 0 3476 1957, 08 9228 6653, email: yokyok888@hotmail.com, www.baanyok.com/, 5 rooms, 1,000 Baht (inclusive of breakfast).

Lapothai Resort and Homestay (บ้านลาโพทัย รีสอร์ท แอนด์โฮมสเตย์) 54 Mu 4, Tambon Bang Phrom, Tel. 08 9805 4500, 08 9259 2455, 7 rooms, 300-5,000 Baht.

Plaiklongsai Homestay (ปลายคลองไทร โฮมสเตย์) 11 Mu 8, Tambon Bang Phrom, Tel. 08 9885 1469, www.maeklongcenter.com/plaiklongsai/index.htm, 2 rooms, 300-400 Baht/person (inclusive of breakfast).

Putaklom (บ้านพุตกลม) 57 Mu 2, Tambon Bang Phrom, Tel. 08 1854 3288, 08 9512 2837, Fax: 0 2599 6039 www.putaklom.com, 4 bungalows, 800-1,200 Baht.

Roen Sarapee (เรือนสารพี) 10 Mu 6, Tambon Rong Hiep, Tel. 0 3473 4146, 08 1199 7469, www.maeklongcenter.com/roensarapee.htm, 2 rooms, 500-1,000 Baht (karaoke available).

Ruean Kradungnga (เรือนกระดังงา) 44 Mu 12, Tambon Kradang-nga, Tel. 0 3471 7711, 08 5961 7789, 08 1995 4889, 0 3476 1625, Fax: 0 3471 6345, www.kradungngaresort.com, 12 bungalows, 800-1,500 Baht.

Restaurants

Amphoe Mueang Samut Songkhram

Chan Kaeo (จันทแก้ว) 158/3 Thon Buri - Pak Tho Road (at the foot of the King Rama II Bridge), Tambon Mae Klong, open 8.00 p.m. - 2.00 a.m. (pub).

Chao Le (ชาวละ) (near the firefly village on Khlong Phi Lok) 50 Samut Songkhram - Bang Phae Road, Tambon Ban Prok, Tel. 0 3475 2681, open 10.00 a.m. - 10.00 p.m. (recommended: various shrimp and mackerel dishes).

Chinda (จินดา) 193 Soi Laem Yai (at the foot of the King Rama II Bridge).

Khlong Khon Fish Noodles (ก๋วยเตี๋ยวปลาคลองโคก) available along both sides of the Thon Buri - Pak Tho Road, around Km. 2.

Khun Lin (คูนลิน) 10/2 Mu 4, Ratchawithi Road, Tambon Bang Chakreng, Tel. 0 3471 4348, 08 9837 4824, Fax. 0 3471 3779, open 7.00 a.m. - 8.00 p.m. (seafood).

Khrae Mai (แคร่ไม้) 10/11 Mu 4, Tambon Bang Chakreng (next to Ban Chuchi School, Don Hoi Lot), Tel. 08 9836 2069, open 9.00 a.m. - 8.00 p.m. (seafood).

New Peng Long (นิวปลั่ง) 125/15 Thang Khao Mueang Road, Tambon Mae Klong, Tel. 0 3471 1152, 08 1308 7188, open 9.00 a.m. - 6.00 p.m. (Chinese food, steamed duck noodles).

Nai Klæ (นายคนะ) 149 Mu 4, Tambon Bang Khan Taek.

Mathurot (มาตุรุต) 683/42 Ratchayat Raksa Road, Tambon Mae Klong, Tel. 0 3471 3393, open 6.00 a.m. - noon (rice and curries).

Rim Nam (รินน้ำ) 24 Mu 6, Tambon Mae Klong.

Rim Ao (รินอ่าว) 213 Mu 1, Wichan Withi Road, Tambon Bang Chakreng, Tel. 0 3471 1299, 08 1820 2142, open 7.00 a.m. - 9.00 p.m. (seafood).

Ruean Wari (เรือนวารี) 153, Tambon Mae Klong.

Suchada (สุชาดา) Amphawa - Mae Klong Road.

Sawai (สawai) 50/22 Soi Bang Chakreng 4, Rama II Road, Tambon Mae Klong, Tel. 0 3471 1190, 08 1942 4237, open 9.00 a.m. - 9.00 p.m. (seafood).

Thepnimit (เทพนิมิต) 67 Mu 4, Tambon Bang Chakreng.

Food Shops around the Don Hoi Lot Area

Khrua Sopha (ครัวโสภะหรือ ตึกเจ๊กอ่าว) 1/4 Mu 4, Tambon Bang Chakreng, Tel. 0 3471 8319

Khun Pao (คูนเป้า) 1/3 Mu 4, Tambon Bang Chakreng, Tel. 0 3472 3703, 08 1941 0376, 08 1923 9544, open 9.00 a.m. - 11.00 p.m. (seafood).

Khiang Thale (เคียงทะเล) 3/17 Mu 4, Tambon Bang Chakreng, Tel. 0 3472 3681-3, 0 3472 3702, open 9.00 a.m. - 7.00 p.m. (seafood).

Phuyai Buntham (ผู้ใหญ่นุญชรธรรม) (near the Prince of Chumphon Shrine) 4 Mu 4, Tambon Bang Chakreng,

Tel. 0 3472 3739, open 8.00 a.m. - 8.00 p.m. (seafood).

Phuean (เพี้ยน) 115/15 Mu 4, Tambon Bang Chakreng.

Lung Khan (ลุงขัน) 3/1 Mu 4, Tambon Bang Chakreng, Tel. 0 3471 4718, Fax. 0 3471 6519, open 8.00 a.m. - 8.00 p.m. (seafood).

In the area of Don Hoi Lot, there are also several other food shops and restaurants located along the beach such as Somnuek, Lung Man, Nok Iang, Nong Kung, Song Anong, Rungsap, Namthip, Sopha, Suthada, Pa Tuk, etc.; all with a relaxing atmosphere where one can enjoy seafood and views of the Don Hoi Lot at high tide.

Amphoe Amphawa

Ban Chom Duean (บ้านชมเดือน) 39/4 Mu 9, Km. 38 Samut Songkhram - Bang Phae Road, Tambon Ban Prok, Tel. 0 3475 2200-1, open daily 11.00 a.m. - 9.00 p.m. (recommended: pomelo salad, spicy shell salad, pickled bamboo shoot soup with crab, old-style spicy fish with herbs, fried salted domestic chicken). (Ban Chom Duean Local Museum is open during 8.00 a.m. - 5.00 p.m.)

Chang Phueak (ช้างเผือก) (about 1 km. beyond the King Rama II Memorial Park) 2 Mu 5, Amphawa - Bang Nok Khwaek Road, Tambon Bang Chang, Tel. 0 3472 5414, 0 3472 5541, 08 1494 3264, open 9.00 a.m. - 9.00 p.m. (seafood, chicken cooked in fish sauce).

Ngo Pochana (จ้อโภชนา) 14-16 Si Amphawa Road.
Nong Um (น้องอู๋ม) (on the Mae Klong River opposite Wat Bang Khae Yai) 12 Sukhonthaman Road, Tambon Amphawa, Tel. 0 3475 1977, 0 3475 1209, open daily 10.00 a.m. - 9.00 p.m. (recommended: water lily rhizome soup with shrimp, stir-fried cowslip creeper flower in oyster sauce, Phat Poi Sian - a stir-fried dish of 8 main ingredients, deep-fried fish sauce-marinated perch, fried rice noodles in seafood sauce, blue swimming crab salad, and grilled serrated mud crab).

Ocharot Coffee Shop (ร้านกาแฟโอชาโรต) (a coffee shop of over 50 years old next to the Tambon Amphawa

Municipal Office) 7 Chotthamrong Road, Tambon Amphawa, Tel. 0 3472 5568, open 6.00 a.m. - 8.00 p.m. (closed at midnight on Friday and the weekend).

Phae Amphawa (แพอัมพวา) (in front of the Amphawa District Office) a teakwood floating restaurant along the Mae Klong River, open 11.00 a.m. - 10.30 p.m.

Phonsawan (พรสวรรค์) in front of the Amphawa District Office.

Saban-nga (สับนงา) (in Baan Tai Had Resort and Water Sport) 1 Mu 2, Tambon Tai Hat, Tel. 0 3476 7220-4, open daily 6.30 a.m. - 10.00 p.m. (Thai and European food).

Amphoe Bang Khonthi

Ban Suan Rim Nam (บ้านสวนริมน้ำ) 57 Mu 7, Tambon Bang Nok Khwaek.

Pea Crab Noodles (เป็ะก้วยเตี้ยาญ) Samut Songkhram Bang Nok Khwaek Road, Tel. 3470 3147.

Kuaitiao Pla Amphawa (ก้วยเตี้ยาปลาอัมพวา) (next to Thawi Sugar Stove) 8/1 Mu 7, Tambon Bang Phrom, Tel. 08 6344 7418, open daily 9.00 a.m. - 4.00 p.m. (fish noodles).

Khonthi Rim Nam (กมทิมริมน้ำ) Samut Songkhram Bang Nok Khwaek Road, diagonally opposite the PTT Gas Station.

Local Products and Souvenirs

Samut Songkhram is a fertile province where the majority of the people are farmers, and, therefore, abounds with various kinds of fruit, be they lychee, king orange, grape, guava, coconut, or the Khao Yai variety of pomelo grown extensively in Amphoe Bang Khonthi. There are also other agricultural products, local goods and souvenirs to suit tourists' choices.

Amphoe Mueang Samut Songkhram

Ban Pak Map Cooperatives Miniature Boat (เรือจำลอง กลุ่มสหกรณ์บ้านปากมวบ) 28/2 Mu 8, Tambon Bang

Kaeo, Tel. 0 3471 6677, 0 3471 8327, 08 1308 9020 (miniature boats such as rowing boat, long-tailed boat, ghost boat, etc. mostly made of durable teakwood).

Talat Don Hoi Lot (ตลาดสินค้าพื้นเมืองบริเวณถนนหอยหลอด) on the roadside in the Don Hoi Lot area, offering dried seafood such as razor clam or Hoi Lot, salted fish, squid, and shrimp, as well as processed food, hand-crafted products and souvenirs.

Talat Khong Di Mac Klong 69 (ตลาดของดีแม่กลอง 69) Km. 69 Rama II Road, Tambon Bang Khan Taek, sells local goods such as fresh fruits from orchards, the Khao Yai variety of pomelo, lychee, rose apple, aromatic coconut, and dried seafood like razor clam, salted fish, squid, and shrimp. Several other products are also available; for example, Khlong Khon's shrimp paste, fish sauce, fresh toddy palm sap, and coconut palm sugar.

Talat Klang Bang Kaeo or Bang Kaeo Central Market (ตลาดกลางบางแก้ว) Km. 58 Rama II Road, is a showcasing and selling centre of commodity goods, agricultural produce, hand-crafted and local products, and manufactured processed agricultural products, as well as community economic shops of housewife groups. The market is open on Thursday and Sunday.

Sahachai Seafood (สหชัยซีฟู้ด) Withan Withi Road, Tambon Bang Chakreng, offering processed seafood products.

Yellow Pages Basketry (ผลิตภัณฑ์ตะกร้าจากสมุนไพรสีฟ้า) Mrs. Watsana Phuengsangwan, 9/2 (near Wat Khu Sanam Chan) Mu 4, Tambon Ban Prok, Amphoe Mueang Samut Songkhram, Tel. 0 3472 0273 (bamboo and rattan products).

Amphoe Amphawa

Coconut Palm Sugar (น้ำตาลมะพร้าว) along both sides of Highway No. 325 (Samut Songkhram - Bang Phae route) from Km. 30 - 34, there are a number of sugar simmering stoves such as Tao Wan, Tao Tan Di, and Tao

Thai Doem. Visitors may stop to see the sugar simmering demonstration. Making sugar from coconut palm sap is one of the province's major occupations. Villagers will climb up the coconut trees to collect the sap from their inflorescence from the hanging bamboo tubes in the morning. Then, the collected sap will be simmered in a large wok until it becomes dried. The simmering time is between 8.30 a.m. - 2.00 p.m.

The Orchid Farm Company Limited (บริษัท ดิออร์คิด ฟาร์ม จำกัด) 40/1 Mu 7, Km. 35 - 36 Highway No. 325 (Samut Songkhram - Bang Phae Road), Tambon Bang Chang, Tel. 0 3475 1494, open 8.00 - 10.00 a.m. (an attraction offering an orchid farm and souvenir products such as silk cloth, silverware, and decorative items).

Pinsuwan Bencharong or Ban Bencharong (ปิ่นสุวรรณ เบนจรงค์ หรือ บ้านเบนจรงค์) 32/1 Mu 7, Km. 36 - 37 (opposite Wat Chula Mani) 300 m. off Highway No. 325 (Samut Songkhram - Bang Phae Road), Tambon Bang Chang. This is a production plant of replicas of Bencharong ceramics of the King Rama II period, which are painted with graceful and colourful patterns ideal for souvenirs and household decorations. Open 8.00 a.m. - 5.00 p.m. on Monday - Saturday, and 8.00 - 12.00 a.m. on Sunday. Observation of the production process is open daily during 8.00 a.m. - 5.00 p.m. from Monday - Saturday. For more details, call Tel. 0 3475 1322.

Tied and Natural Dyed Cotton (ผ้าฝ้ายมัดย้อมและย้อมสีด้วยเปลือกไม้) Tied and Natural Dyed Cotton Group (near Yi San Sub-district Administration Organization), Mu 1, Tambon Yi San, Amphoe Amphawa, contact Mrs. Prungthong Darunsi, Tel. 0 3476 3027, 08 1906 1126 (cloth, handkerchief, scarf, and ready-to-wear clothes from tied and natural dyed cloth).

Coconut Shell Products (ผลิตภัณฑ์จากกะลามะพร้าว) Women's Coconut Shell Product Group, Mrs. Wipha Pankhlueap, 7/1 Mu 4, Tambon Bang Khae, Amphoe Amphawa, Tel. 0 3473 3247, open on the weekend during

8.00 a.m. - 5.00 p.m. (ornaments and household decoration items made from coconut shells).

Thai House and Boat Replicas, Miniature Thai House Products (ผลิตภัณฑ์บ้านทรงไทยจำลอง บ้านทรงไทยจิ๋ว) Mr. Suchin Prueangchana, 1 Pracha Set Road (near the intersection to Amphawa), Amphoe Amphawa, Tel. 0 3475 1308, 08 9684 9936.

Coconut Leaf Stalk Basketry (หัตถกรรมจักสานจาก ก้านมะพร้าว) Bang Chang Coconut Leaf Stalk Basketry Group, Miss Oraphin Prachaniyom, 120/1 Mu 3, Tambon Bang Chang, Amphoe Amphawa, Tel. 0 3475 1677 (various products available such as bowl - footed tray, basket, basket with handle, food cover, and hat).

Amphoe Bang Khonthi

Kala Banleng (ร้านกะลาบรณง) Mr. Bangleng Yimbunna, 63/2 Mu 8, Ban Rai - Wat Bot Road, Tambon Bang Yi Rong, Amphoe Bang Khonthi, Tel. 08 1293 6414, open daily 8.00 a.m. - 8.00 p.m. (various forms of products from coconut shells and natural materials, in unique creative philosophical designs, for daily use and household decoration).

Kluai Brek Taek (กล้วยเบรคแตก) available at the PTT Gas Station before reaching the Sino Patra Ban Ruea Restaurant, Samut Songkhram - Bang Nok Khwaek Route, Tel. 0 3473 0154, 08 1857 8487, open 6.00 a.m. - 7.00 p.m. (honey-baked aromatic banana with a delicious crispy sweet, salty, and enjoyable taste).

Useful Calls

Provincial Bus Terminal	Tel. 0 3471 6962
Samut Songkhram	Tel. 0 3471 1906
Railway Station	
Provincial Public Relations	Tel. 0 3471 4881
Provincial Administration	Tel. 0 3471 1997
Office	
Amphoe Mueang	Tel. 0 3471 1338,

Samut Songkhram	0 3472 0530-5
Police Station	
Amphoe Amphawa	Tel. 0 3475 1300,
Police Station	0 3472 5625-7
Amphoe Bang Khonthi	Tel. 0 3476 1866,
Police Station	0 3473 0062-4
Amphawa Hospital	Tel. 0 3475 1846-7,
	0 3475 2560-1
King Rama II Hospital	Tel. 0 3472 3044-9
Naphalai Hospital	Tel. 0 3476 2270-2
Highway Police	Tel. 1193
Tourist Police	Tel. 1155

TAT Tourist Information Centres

Tourism Authority of Thailand

Head Office

1600 New Phetchaburi Road, Makkasan

Ratchathewi, Bangkok 10400

Tel : 0 2250 5500 (120 numbers)

Fax : 0 2250 5511

E-mail : info@tat.or.th

Website : www.tourismthailand.org

Ministry of Tourism and Sports

4 Ratchadamnoen Nok Avenue, Bangkok 10100

8.30 a.m.-4.30 p.m. everyday

TAT Samut Songkhram Office

2nd Fl., Amphawa Municipality Office,

Samut Songkhram 75110

Tel : 0 3475 2847-8

Fax : 0 3475 2846

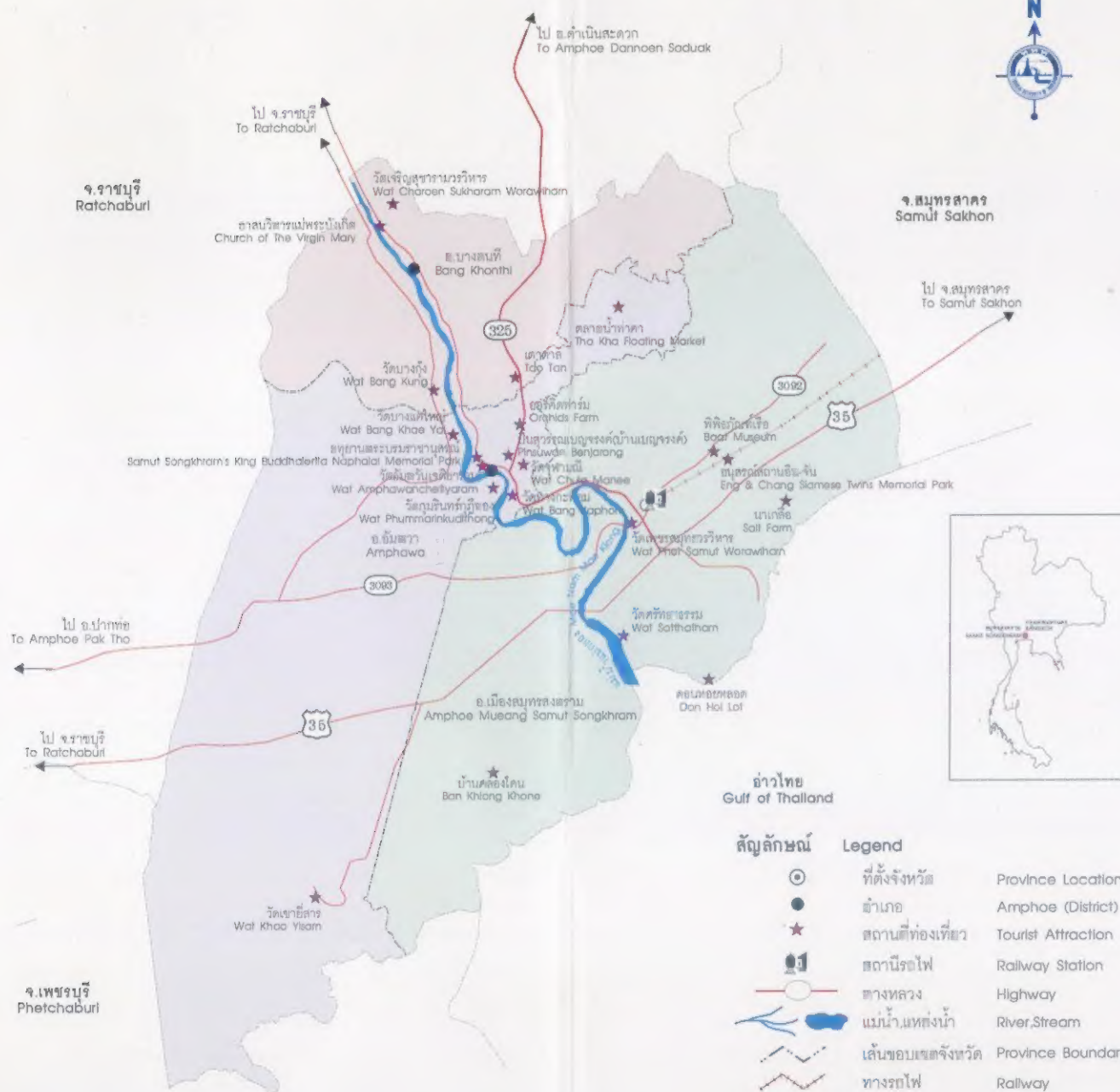
E-mail: [tatsmsk @ tat.or.th](mailto:tatsmsk@tat.or.th)

Fishery Pier, Wat Pak Samut

แผนที่ตัวเมืองสมุทรสงคราม SAMUT SONGKHRAM CITY MAP



แผนที่ท่องเที่ยวจังหวัดสมุทรสงคราม
SAMUT SONGKHRAM TOURIST MAP



08.00-20.00 hrs. Everyday

Tourist information by fax available 24 hrs.
E-mail: info@tat.or.th
Website: www.tourismthailand.org

